Sale of protected bird species

3378. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sale of Bustard Quail, a small bird, which is protected species under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, is going on Chandrapur in Maharashtra, for last many years, with impunity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the wild variety of the bird is served in many restaurants at Chandrapur, openly; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to stop the sale of the protected bird species?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) According to the report given by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra no wild quails are being served in the restaurants at Chandrapur. Restaurants are serving Japanese quail bred in captivity by a breeding farm licensed under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The action taken and proposed to be taken to protect the Bustard Quail against illegal hunting include:—

1. Maintaining vigilance on markets, restaurants and other likely places of trade in birds.
2. Keeping strict watch on traditional trappers and other poachers.
3. Educating the protection and other field staff about the difference between the Japanese quails and wild quails.
4. Keeping a watch on the farms licensed to deal in Japanese quails.

SC reprimand about pollution

3379. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has reprimanded the Government agencies for not being concerned about the health of the people in the cities and for non-compliance of pollution related laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Court has also considered the day-by-day increasing level of pollution as more serious, than the Bhopal gas tragedy;